

Maine Smart Growth Institute:

A Leadership Program in Smart Growth

With the support of:

Maine State Planning Office
Audubon Society of Maine
Maine Association of Realtors
Terrence J. DeWan & Associates

Maine Coastal Program
Edmund S. Muskie School of Public Service, University of Southern Maine
Kent Associates Planning and Design
Town of Brunswick

Maine Department of Transportation
Planning Decisions, Inc.
National Center for Smart Growth

A certificate program in collaboration with the University of Maine.

Financial assistance provided by the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended, administered by the Office of Oceanic and Coastal Resource Management, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, under awards # NA070Z0117 and # NA170Z1123.

Maine is at a crossroads. The way we have developed the past 30 years has cost us a fortune and, unless we change, it will cost even more. Think of it – state taxpayers have paid for over \$300 million for new school capacity, even as the student population statewide has declined. At one time in our service centers, 43 houses per mile helped pay for the cost of public roads. Now, on average there are only 19 houses per mile. We are losing economies of scale and our taxes show it. The character of our communities has changed too; often not for the better. We build subdivisions instead of neighborhoods. We vacate downtowns for sprawling strips. We have more air pollution, more lakes degraded from runoff, and less wildlife habitat that is truly wild. We know things have to change, but how? The *Maine Smart Growth Institute* is part of the answer and we are looking for your help to make it happen.

FORMAT

The *Maine Smart Growth Institute* is designed to share the best and most up-to-date information about growth issues in Maine. The program will be interdisciplinary and collaborative and emphasize group discussion and exercises that integrate the themes of the curriculum. Program design acknowledges the variety of experience of participants and attempts to expand and broaden this knowledge through synergy of the faculty and participants in a retreat setting.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The *Maine Smart Growth Institute* is designed to provide critical skills and knowledge to a diverse audience of interests – local, regional, state, and federal officials; planners; designers, developers; realtors; bankers, members of conservation and environmental organizations; operators of natural resource based industries; and other participants who will leave the *Institute* prepared to translate what they've learned into action plans for their communities and organizations. At the conclusion of the *Institute* there will be a core group of Maine participants who:

- Understand Maine's historic and more recent patterns of development; trends, forces behind, and barriers to modifying them; and outcomes of continuing our current pattern of growth.
- Recognize that sprawl manifests itself differently in different parts of the State and recognize which design principles, planning tools, incentives, and strategies are appropriate to reflect regional variations in support of "smarter" patterns of development.
- Understand the role that marketplace, land economics, transportation and other public investments have on development patterns.
- Can use, and train others to use, strategies, tools, and participatory and negotiation techniques to engage the public in planning for Smart Growth.
- Are familiar with visualization techniques to help others understand Smart Growth principles.
- Appreciate the need for interdisciplinary problem-solving skills, networking, and supporting each other with Smart Growth efforts.
- Will be a catalyst for Smart Growth activities in their regions and communities.

Themes and Course Descriptions

Holistic Perspective: Explores the multidisciplinary, comprehensive, and cumulative aspects of Smart Growth.

Leadership: Explores theories of leadership, the study of leadership styles, leadership principles and practices. Examines negotiation techniques and social justice and equity issues of Smart Growth.

Community Development: Examines the desirable characteristics of community. Considers contemporary drivers of development; definition of sprawl, smart growth and livable communities; rural economics; downtown revitalization; good design; transportation; and appropriate roles for the public, private, and nonprofit sector.

Market Forces: Examines life from the developer's perspective, land economics, contemporary drivers of development including market demand. Smart use of economic development tools will be explored.

Natural Resource Base and Ecological Systems: Examines open space and habitat planning, preservation of natural resource-based industries, the law of unintended consequences, multiple environmental invoices, and the impacts of growth on the health of watersheds.

Regionalism: Examines the need and opportunities for a regional approach to managing growth.

Infrastructure/Public Investment: Examines the impact of public investment on land use patterns. Explores short and long term comparisons of public investment decisions on livable communities.

Affordability: Explores sprawl's impact on Maine's fiscal and natural environment as well as on the character of our communities, including influences on the affordability of housing.

FACULTY AND DISTINGUISHED PRESENTERS

Core faculty, adjunct faculty, and panelists will support the *Maine Smart Growth Institute*. Core faculty will guide the major aspects of the curriculum and stay on-site for the duration of both sessions, prepared to modify the curriculum as needed. Adjunct faculty will weave specific skills and information into the overall fabric of the curriculum. Panelists will be brought in for specific sessions as needed over the two weeks.

Judy Brown, Leadership and Public Participation – Judy is a Senior Fellow at the School of Public Affairs and Academy of Leadership at the University of Maryland. She is also a consultant, poet and writer whose work in organizations revolves around themes of leadership, change, learning, dialogue, diversity, and renewal.

Ken Brown, Watershed Protection – Ken is an Aquatic Ecologist with the Center for Watershed Protection in Ellicott City, Maryland. He is responsible for biological stream surveys, stream habitat and geomorphic assessment, water quality data collection and interpretation, GIS mapping and analysis, and the review and assessment of stormwater management, sediment control, and land development plans.

Marita Brown, Public Finance – Marita is a Senior Fellow at the University of Maryland School of Public Affairs. She has served as Budget Director for Anne Arundel and Prince George's County, Maryland and as Secretary of Budget and Fiscal Planning for the State of Maryland. In addition, she has been a Visiting Scholar at the US Congressional Budget Office and currently serves as a Commissioner of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission.

Beth Della Valle, Director of *Maine Smart Growth Institute* (Core Faculty) – Beth is Coordinator of the Maine State Planning Office's Land Use Team, which manages the Community Planning & Investment Program and the Office's Smart Growth initiative. She has also served as consultant to many Maine towns in preparation of comprehensive plans, land use regulations, and open space plans. She was Planning Director in South Portland, Maine for seven years.

Terry DeWan, Visualizations (Core Faculty) – Terry is Principal of Terrence J. DeWan & Associates of Yarmouth, Maine. He has over 30 years experience in landscape architecture, visual resource assessment, site planning, model building and community development. He has written and/or directed the publication of numerous community planning studies, visual impact assessments, recreation plans, waterfront access plans, and highway corridor plans.

Mark Eyerman, Land Use Planning (Core Faculty) – Mark is Co-owner of Planning Decisions, Inc. of South Portland, Maine. He also teaches for the University of Southern Maine's Geography Department and specializes in public participation, downtown studies, and market analysis as well as community planning, demographic analysis, school enrollment forecasting, market and consumer research and focus groups.

John Frece, Special Advisor to State Government – John is Communications Director for Maryland Governor Parris N. Glendening's Office of Smart Growth. Prior to this position he was the Governor's Special Assistant for Smart Growth. His responsibilities include public outreach and coordination of media issues related to Smart Growth and Neighborhood Conservation initiatives.

Theo Holtwijk, Landscape Architecture (Core Faculty) – Theo, a native of The Netherlands and a Fulbright scholar, is co-author and editor of "Bold Vision" an award winning book about Portland's park system. Presently Director of Planning and Development for Brunswick, Maine, Theo teaches Principles of Town Design for the Community Planning and Development Program at the University of Southern Maine's Muskie School of Public Service.

Beth Humstone, Promising Initiatives from Vermont – Beth is Executive Director of the Vermont Forum on Sprawl, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the unique character of Vermont's countryside while encouraging development in community centers. Under Beth's direction, the Forum has developed several tools to protect community character.

Jack Kartez, Negotiation Techniques – Jack is a member of the University of Maine's Muskie School of Public Service where he is Master of the Community Planning and Development Program. He previously taught Urban Planning at Texas A&M University's College of Architecture and was founding director of an interdisciplinary undergraduate degree in Environmental Science and Policy at the University of Southern Maine.

Brian Kent, Urban Design (Core Faculty) – Brian is President of Kent Associates Planning and Design Consultants of Gardiner, Maine. The primary focus of his work is urban design, downtown revitalization, and large-scale site and master planning. He also focuses on conservation planning and environmental education publications.

Josie LaPlante, Public Finance – Josie is Associate Professor of Public Policy at the University of Southern Maine's Muskie School of Public Service where she focuses on Public Financing & Budgeting, Public Financial Management, Accounting for Public & Nonprofit Managers and Statistical & Financial Computer Applications.

Mark Lapping, Rural Framework (Core Faculty) – Mark directs the doctoral program and teaches planning at the University of Southern Maine's Muskie School of Public Service. Between 1994 and 2000, he served as Provost/Vice President of the University. He was a founding Dean of the Bloustein School of Planning & Public Policy at Rutgers University where he simultaneously served as Associate Director of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station. He has authored several books on rural planning, agriculture and change and is a consultant to federal, state/provincial and local governments.

David Listokin, Consequences of Public Investments – David is co-director of Rutgers University's Center for Urban Policy Research and a leading authority on fiscal impact analysis, housing policy, land use, and historic preservation.

John Melrose, Transportation – John is Commissioner of Maine's Department of Transportation, responsible for creating and maintaining a safe, efficient, environmentally sound, and economical transportation system that is responsive to the diverse needs and values of the people of Maine. He recently chaired the Governor's Sub-Cabinet group on Smart Growth and is successfully implementing a multimodal transportation investment plan for the State.

Evan Richert, Methods of Comprehensive Planning (Core Faculty) – Evan is Director of Maine's State Planning Office which provides policy and planning assistance in the areas of natural resources, community planning, economy, energy and governmental affairs. He is a member of the Growing Smart Directorate of the American Planning Association, which is rewriting state model legislation to govern state and local planning.

Robert Sanford – Rob is an Assistant Professor of Environmental Science and Policy at the University of Southern Maine where he teaches courses in environmental science, planning and natural resource policy.

Sally Stockwell, Natural Resource Issues (Core Faculty) – Sally, Director of Conservation for the Audubon Society of Maine, is trained as a wildlife ecologist and has worked on a variety of conservation issues in the State. She is part of a cooperative effort to share information about rare and significant plant/wildlife habitats with land trusts and municipalities in midcoast and southern Maine.

Ed Suslovic, Market Place (Core Faculty) – Ed is Government Affairs Director for the Maine Association of Realtors and a community development consultant working with developers and municipalities. Ed was an early participant in conversations surrounding sprawl in Maine and is a founding member of the Maine Smart Growth Council.

LOGISTICS

Cost

The cost of the program is \$750, which includes tuition, materials, lodging, and meals. The fee does not fully fund the budget of the *Institute* which is able to cover total costs through generous outside support. Registration stipends may be available.

Dates

The two-week residential program will be held September 17-21 and November 12-16.

Location

The program will be held at the Bethel Inn, in Bethel Maine. Lodging arrangements will be confirmed when full payment is received.

For More Information, Contact:

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